

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 15 November 2024

Over-Odorisation Event at Iona Gas Plant

Lochard Energy is responding to an over-odorisation event at our Iona Gas Plant near Port Campbell, which has led to a stronger than usual gas smell across parts of South-Western Victoria. We assure the community that there is no threat to public safety or gas supply.

The stronger gas smell is due to higher levels of an odorant that is added to natural gas to assist with leak detection. We are working closely with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to monitor the situation. In response to increased reports of gas smells, AEMO held a briefing with emergency services to ensure a coordinated approach to public inquiries. The smell may reach areas further east, including Colac and South-Western Melbourne, though it is expected to lessen over the coming days as the gas in the pipelines is used by customers.

As a precaution, we advise the public to follow standard safety protocols if they detect a gas odour. If the smell is inside, open windows for ventilation, turn off any gas appliances, and contact your gas distributor or a licensed plumber. If the odour is outside, please avoid the area, do not use open flames or electrical devices, and report it to your gas distributor or a licensed plumber.

Lochard Energy will continue to work with relevant authorities and assures the community that public safety is our highest priority. We are taking all necessary steps to restore normal operations as quickly as possible.

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A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the page consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent circles in shades of yellow, orange, and pink, creating a soft, abstract background element.